FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Latin America

Vol VI No 98 *19 May 1978*

NONALINED MEETING

Coordinating Bureau Meeting Opens Officially in Havana	AA 1	1/A6
Other Activities Reported	AA 1	1/A6
Cuban Government Reception	AA 1	1/A6

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

Amazon Pact To Be Signed in Brasilia in July	A 1	1/A7
OCLAE Official Raps Pentagon's National Security Doctrine	A 1	1/A7

ARGENTINA

Government Plans To Ratify Tlaltelolco Treaty	B 1	1/A8
Bolivian General Villalpando Assails Chile's Beagle Position	B 1	1/A8
Bolivian Economic Delegation Opens Talks in Buenos Aires	B 1	1/A8
Appeal Sent to Supreme Court on Behalf of Missing Persons	B 2	1/A9
Group of 25 Names Delegates to ILO Congress	B 3	1/A10
Industrialists Seek Gradual Anti-Inflation Action	B 3	1/A10
Briefs: Offshore Oil Prospecting	B 3	1/A10

BOLIVIA

Oil Workers Begin Fast Over Delay in Rehiring	C 1	1/A11
Miners Declare Emergency, Demand UMSA Reopening	C 1	1/A11
Paz Estenssoro Will Return for MNR Presidential Nomination	C 2	1/A12
Paz Estenssoro Arrives	C 2	1/A12
Integration Secretary Voices Hope for Amazon Integration	C 2	1/A12
Minister Jimenez Gallo Denies FSB Charges Against Court	C 3	1/A13
Three Firms Engaged in Oil Exploration	C 3	1/A13

BRAZIL

Geisel Receives Guinea-Bissau Foreign Minister	D 1	1/A14
Figueiredo To Meet President Eanes During Visit [JORNAL DO BRASIL 16 May]	D 1	1/A14
Portella Presents New Reform Proposals to ARENA Leaders [O GLOBO 17 May]	D 1	1/A14
ARENA, MDB Senators Urge Magalhaes To Back Bentes Monteiro	D 2	1/B1
MDB Leaders Discuss Bentes Monteiro Candidacy With Abreu [JORNAL DO BRASIL 17 May]	D 2	1/B1
Sao Paulo Auto Strike Negotiations Continue [JORNAL DO BRASIL 18 May]	D 2	1/B1
Strikes Ruled Illegal	D 3	1/B2
4-Month Drought Ends; Losses Irreversible	D 3	1/B2
U.S. Ready To Accept Brazil's GATT Proposal [O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO 16 May]	D 4	1/B3

CHILE

Leigh Denies Backing New Plan To Restore Democracy E 1 1/B4
Bolivia Warned Following Villalpando Remarks in Argentina E 1 1/B4
Foreign Minister Cubillos Announces Open Foreign Policy E 2 1/B5
Navy Commander Discusses Bolivian Sea Access E 2 1/B5

COLOMBIA

Government Workers Strike Carried Out Peacefully F 1 1/B6
Further on Workers Strike F 1 1/B6
Bogota Police Implement Plan To Prevent Bus Burning F 2 1/B7

ECUADOR

Students Demonstrate Over University Budget Deficit G 1 1/B8

PERU

Constituent Assembly Elections Postponed for 2 Weeks J 1 1/B9
Election Preparations Behind Schedule J 1 1/B9
Electoral Council Seeks Delay J 1 1/B9
Government Postpones Elections J 1 1/B9
Radio Comments on Elections, Social Unrest in Country J 1 1/B9
Labor Unions Call for Nationwide Strike 22, 23 May J 2 1/B10
Labor Minister Comments J 2 1/B10
AP Party Attacks Government Waste of Public Funds J 3 1/B11
Interministerial Economic Commission Reorganized J 3 1/B11

URUGUAY

General Rapela Addresses Army Day Ceremony K 1 1/B12
Education Minister Darracq Lauds Victory Over Subversion K 3 1/B14

PANAMA

National Assembly To Discuss Constitutional Amendments N 1 1/C1
Foreign Ministry Confirms Torrijos-Carazo Meeting on 21 May N 2 1/C2
Dominican Youths Demonstrate Outside Embassy in Panama City N 2 1/C2
DPRK Trade Delegation Meets With Commerce Officials N 2 1/C2
[MATUTINO 15 May]

CENTRAL AMERICA

COSTA RICA

Maritime Borders With Panama, Nicaragua To Be Negotiated P 1 1/C3
Interior Minister Says Vesco Not Expected To Return P 1 1/C3
Briefs: 1977 Foreign Trade Balance P 1 1/C3

EL SALVADOR

Two Guerrillas Die in Clash With Security Forces P 1 1/C3
Japanese Textile Executive Kidnaped 17 May P 2 1/C4
FARN Takes Credit P 2 1/C4

GUATEMALA

Striking Electrical Workers Cause Power Failure P 2 1/C4

HONDURAS

Sandinist Guerrilla Captured Last Week P 3 1/C5

NICARAGUA

Military Disperses Student Demonstration, Evacuates Schools P 3 1/C5

CUBA

Offer To Intervene in Dominican Republic Denied Q 1 1/C6
CEMA Committee Meeting Ends; Agreements Signed Q 1 1/C6
Agreements Reported Q 1 1/C6
Commentator: Moro Slaying Result of 'Erroneous Strategic Idea' Q 2 1/C7
Rodriguez Chairs Public Administration Union Meeting Q 3 1/C8
Health Minister Returns From Geneva Conference Q 3 1/C8

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Balaguer Denies Coup, Will Respect Election Outcome R 1 1/C9
Outcome of 16 May Election Still Uncertain, Contested R 1 1/C9
PR Announces Victory R 1 1/C9
Comment on Vote Count R 2 1/C10
Further Note on Count R 2 1/C10
Strike Threatened R 2 1/C10
Gangs Attack Electoral Boards R 2 1/C10
Political Leader Says Military Raided Party Headquarters R 3 1/C11
Political, Professional Groups Comment on Elections R 3 1/C11

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40

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COORDINATING BUREAU MEETING OPENS OFFICIALLY IN HAVANA

FL181738Y Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 18 May 78 FL

[Excerpt] The sixth nonalined countries Coordinating Bureau meeting began this morning at the ambassadors hall of the Havana Libre Hotel. Isidoro Malmierca, member of the PCC Central Committee and minister of foreign relations, who heads the Cuban delegation, made the opening remarks. In his speech, the Cuban foreign minister discussed the development of the nonalined movement and its impact on the struggle of underdeveloped countries to attain their aspirations. Malmierca referred to the movement's current tasks and those to be carried out until the sixth nonalined summit meeting is held next year in Havana.

Other Activities Reported

FL182318Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2132 GMT 18 May 78 FL

[Excerpt] The ministerial-level meeting of the nonalined movement Coordinating Bureau has approved the report of the ambassadors and experts meeting that was headed by chairman of this meeting, Cuban representative Raul Roa Kouri. The report contains the recommendations made by the ambassadors and high officials on the composition of the presidential table of the ministerial level meeting and the political and economic committees. The presidential table is made up of Cuba, which heads it; Nigeria, Sri Lanka and Yugoslavia, as vice chairmen; and Jamaica as reporter. At the same time the meeting also approved work agenda deliberations.

In their presentations, several delegations congratulated Minister Malmierca for his election as chairman and Cuba as chairman of the event, despite the short time it had to prepare for it. During the ministerial-level meeting of the Coordinating Bureau that is being held at Habana Libre Hotel, a proposal was made to make Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca's opening remarks a working document.

Up to the moment a total of 150 delegates are attending the meeting representing 38 countries. Fifteen ministers are already in Havana and the foreign ministers of Afghanistan and Liberia are expected to arrive in the next couple of hours, along with the Vietnamese vice foreign minister. Ministers will represent Angola, Algeria, Botswana, Chad, Cuba, Guyana, Guinea, Iraq, India, Jamaica, Syria, Sri Lanka, Yugoslavia, Zambia and Gabon. Also participating are the vice ministers of Tanzania and the DPRK.

Cuban Government Reception

FL191056Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 19 May 78 FL

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the PCC Central Committee and president of the Council of State and Council of Ministers, last night attended a reception given by the Cuban Government in honor of the chiefs of delegations participating in the sixth foreign ministers conference of the nonalined countries Coordinating Bureau. Members of the PCC Central Committee Politburo and Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca, who heads the Cuban delegation, attended the reception. Revolutionary government ministers and officials and representatives of the diplomatic corps accredited to Cuba also attended.

AMAZON PACT TO BE SIGNED IN BRASILIA IN JULY

PA162106Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2100 GMT 18 May 78 PA

[Text] Brasilia, 18 May (LATIN)--Eight South American countries agreed today in Caracas to create the Amazon Pact, the Brazilian Foreign Ministry has announced.

In an official communique, Itamaraty added that Brazil invited the foreign ministers of Bolivia, Colombia, Equador, Peru, Venezuela, Surinam and Guyana to meet in Brasilia the first week in July for the formal signing of the Amazon cooperation treaty.

OCLAE OFFICIAL RAPS PENTAGON'S NATIONAL SECURITY DOCTRINE

FL122116Y Mexico City INFORMEX in Spanish to ANSA Buenos Aires 2109 GMT 12 May 78 FL

[Text] Mexico City, 12 May (ANSA-INFORMEX)--There is an attempt to introduce the "national security" doctrine learned in the "antisubversion schools" of the Pentagon at the various educational levels of Latin American countries. Chilean Camilo Escalona, secretary of the Continental Organization of Latin American Students (OCLAE), has made this charge.

OCLAE has just participated with other international organizations at a student anti-imperialist solidarity activity held in Guadalajara, Jalisco State, 350 km northeast of this capital.

Escalona said that the doctrine is being taught to thousands of youths from Chile, Paraguay, Uruguay, Brazil, Bolivia, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Haiti and so forth, and that it is an abuse of the sovereignty of these countries.

GOVERNMENT PLANS TO RATIFY TLALTELOLCO TREATY

PY182233Y Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2200 GMT 18 May 78 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 18 May--Rear Adm Carlos Castro Madero, president of the National Atomic Energy Commission [CNEA], reported today that Argentina will ratify the Tlaltelolco treaty, which forbids the storing of nuclear weapons in Latin America, although he pointed out that "this decision must be made by the Foreign Ministry and the national government."

It is appropriate to point out that if Argentina signs the treaty it will have overcome practically all obstacles to the supplying of nuclear material by Canada.

BOLIVIAN GENERAL VILLALPANDO ASSAILS CHILE'S BEAGLE POSITION

PY181433Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1617 GMT 17 May 78 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 17 May--Local observers here today interpreted the harsh criticism of Chile made by the commander of the Bolivian Army, who is visiting this country, as support for Argentina in its border dispute with Santiago.

Maj Gen Alfonso Villalpando Armasa was decorated yesterday by Lt Gen Jorge Videla, president and commander of the Argentine Army. During this occasion, the visiting military chief said that Chile is incapable of peaceful coexistance and friendship, and accuses it of hindering international harmony and impeding the ideal of Latin American integration and solidarity.

He added that, for the same reasons, Bolivia's Armed Forces repudiate the territorial ambitions of its neighbor (Chile), which arbitrarily tries to extend its territory to the islands of the Beagle Channel, which have traditionally been under Argentine jurisidiction.

We condemn greedy expansionism and we condemn this kind of diplomacy which creates disputes and tries to justify encroachment upon neighboring territories, he added.

He accused Chile and the Andean mountain range of separating our country from the Pacific Ocean and at the same time reiterated Bolivia's friendship with Argentina.

BOLIVIAN ECONOMIC DELEGATION OPENS TALKS IN BUENOS AIRES

PY180339Y Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1540 GMT 17 May 78 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 17 May--A delegation headed by Bolivia's finance minister which arrived in Argentina early today held a working meeting at the Economy Ministry during the morning.

During the meeting they discussed subjects related to the foreign debt, technical and financial assistance for the agricultural and [word indistinct] sectors, gas sales, agricultural and health controls, the Bermejo Basin, and Bolivia's free zones in the port of Rosario, and other topics.

Argentine officials, headed by Economy Minister Jose Alfredo Martinez de Hoz, Commerce Secretary Alejandro Estrada, Transportation Secretary Federico Camba, Energy Secretary Daniel Brunella, Foreign Ministry Under Secretary for International Economic Relations Col Raul Cura and others participated in the discussions.

After preliminary talks, the delegation was offered a luncheon at the Economy Ministry.

The working meetings will continue this afternoon in various economic areas.

APPEAL SENT TO SUPREME COURT ON BEHALF OF MISSING PERSONS

PY182036Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0340 GMT 18 May 78 PY

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 17 May--Well-informed sources reported tonight that 13 political leaders today demanded intervention by the judicial branch to learn the fate of 3,000 persons kidnaped in Argentina since the military took power here 2 years ago.

The demand, made to the Supreme Court of Justice by leaders of various political parties, in their capacity as lawyers of the local bar association, mainly refers to the name list of 2,500 missing persons published today by the conservative newspaper LA PRENSA.

But they add other cases increasing the number to 3,000.

The lawyers sponsoring the plea are Angel Robledo, Carlos Fayt and Manuel Cogorno (Peronists); Raul Alfonsin, Alconada Aramburu, Luis Caeiro, Alberto Pedroncini and Domingo Romano (Radicals); Laureano Landaburu, Roberto Gonzalez Bergez and Luis Mancego (Conservatives); Boris Passik (Communist), and Augusto Conte MacDonell (Christian Democrat).

The writ was submitted to the court because of its failure to give any specific reply to relatives of 425 missing persons who made an appeal to the same court in April 1977 and who do not know anything about their parents, it was said in court circles.

Other cases were added to the original figure, and the list now includes 3,000 persons, whose names were issued today in a paid advertisement in the morning paper LA PRENSA by organizations to which parents have applied.

The court is requested to send an official letter to the executive branch, asking for an urgent reply to its letter of 1977, and the court is also asked to contact the Catholic Church to confirm that its officials have concerned themselves with the matter and asked the executive branch to clarify the subject.

Among the signers of the petition is the French nun Evelyne Lamartine, regional superior of the foreign missionary sisters, who signed on behalf of Sister Alice Domon. The latter was kidnaped toward the end of last year with a dozen relatives of political prisoners when they demanded their release. Sister Leonia Duquet, also French, met a similar fate.

GROUP OF 25 NAMES DELEGATES TO ILO CONGRESS

PY180059Y Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0710 GMT 17 May 78 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 17 May--Nine of the 11 delegates who will represent this country at the ILO congress have been appointed by the labor unions called the Group of 25, made up of unions not intervened by the government. The list, which will be submitted to Labor Minister Horacio Tomas Liendo for approval, is composed as follows:

President--Juan Serrano (tire workers); deputies--Carlos Cabrera (mineworkers) and Enrique Mico (clothes industry); advisers to experts--Fernando Donaires (paper industry), Antonio Baldassini (telecommunications and mail), Juan (?Vorvach) (State Workers Association), Jose Luis Castillo (dockyard workers), Roberto Digon (tobacco industry) and Roberto Garcia (taxidrivers).

The two remaining posts will be filled by the Metallurgical Workers Union and the Argentine Union of Construction Workers, unions with government intervention.

It was also decided that Roberto Garcia will replace Florencio Carranza as member of the executive committee of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions. It has not yet been decided who will replace Casildo Herreras, former Peronist General Labor Confederation secretary general and wanted by Argentine justice, in the ILO administrative secretariat.

These appointments were made at a meeting of over 3 and 1/2 hours, held yesterday at the headquarters of the Brewery Workers Federation.

INDUSTRIALISTS SEEK GRADUAL ANTI-INFLATION ACTION

PY180215Y Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1157 GMT 17 May 78 PY

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 17 May--Representatives of the Argentine Industrial Movement (Movimiento Industrial Argentino] have suggested to Economy Minister Jose Martinez de Hoz that the anti-inflationary struggle must be carried out gradually and over a period of not less than 5 years; otherwise, strong recession and unemployment will result if salary control measures are abandoned.

The businessmen were received by Martinez de Hoz yesterday and at the end of the meeting they issued a statement in which they warned that if inflation is rapidly slowed down, the resulting strong recession could produce unemployment if salaries are uncontrolled. It was added that in accordance with their resolution, the meeting with the minister was specifically concerned with anti-inflationary policies, including the influence of the public sector in the budget approved for 1978 and incentive policies for industrial development, particularly tariff policies.

BRIEFS

OFFSHORE OIL PROSPECTING--Comodoro Rivadavia, 8 May--The General Mosconi drilling platform today concluded the drilling of the Tehuelche exploratory well in the Gulf of San Jorge and moved to a position 10 km offshore from the city of Comodoro Rivadavia to continue with the implementation of its prospecting plan, which provides for the drilling of a total of five exploratory wells. The drilling of the second well, the Alacaluf, will begin in 5 days. The other three wells are the Yagan, the Mapuche and the Ona. [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1915 GMT 8 May 78 PY]

OIL WORKERS BEGIN FAST OVER DELAY IN REHIRING

PY181812Y La Paz Radio Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 18 May 78 PY

[Text] Petroleum workers who have been dismissed for political and labor union reasons have declared a hunger strike, beginning 0000 on Wednesday, 17 May. This extreme measure has been taken because the decision regarding their rehiring has been unduly delayed, leading to a veritable via crucis for those workers.

A communique released in the last few hours by Bolivian Government Oil Deposits [YPFB] workers says that they have been the victims of a permanent mockery on the part of Labor Ministry and YPFB officials, naming (Augusto Castro), (Mario Borda), (Osvaldo Poppe) and (Jose Luis Avila). It is also made plain that the extreme decision of a hunger strike has been made after all possible peaceful measures have been exhausted and also because of the serious economic situation being faced by these workers.

The dismissed workers on hunger strike demand support from all other labor sectors which have always shown their humane solidarity when problems appear which require just solutions. Only the conclusion of an agreement on basic and satisfactory conditions for rehiring, signed by Labor Ministry and YPFB officials, the human rights assembly and the dismissed workers, will lead to a calling off of the hunger strike.

MINERS DECLARE EMERGENCY, DEMAND UMSA REOPENING

PY181808Y La Paz Radio Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 18 May 78 PY

[Text] The Mineworkers Federation of Bolivia [FSTMB] has decided to declare a state of emergency in all the mining districts of the country, demanding the immediate reopening of the Greater University of San Andres [UMSA]. The communique, issued by the largest labor federation in the country, announces that the FSTMB will take other measures in defense of university autonomy if intentions persist of maintaining the present UMSA officials in their posts and keeping the university closed.

The document, signed by the FSTMB executive committee, headed by Juan Lechin Oquendo, (Victor Lopez Arias), (Simon Reyes), (Filemon Escobar) and (Armando Morales), says: On Thursday, 11 May, representative Bolivian organizations visited the National Council of Higher Education [CNES] with the single intention of proposing to council officials the immediate reopening of UMSA. The conditions proposed by the organizations were the following: The rector, vice rector and secretary general should withdraw from their posts, since they have submitted their resignations in the first place and have received over 300,000 Bolivian pesos in the settlement of their salaries. The CNES officials admitted that the problem was centered around the three UMSA officials and made a formal commitment to propose their withdrawal and that the reply would be given on Monday, 15 May. The CNES reply was totally contrary to its commitment since it stated that the university will be opened under the direction of the officials mentioned above. The FSTMB and the other organizations also proposed that the UMSA should be opened for its immediate democratization according to the principles of university autonomy. Because of all these reasons, the FSTMB has decided to declare a state of emergency in all mining districts which have joined this mother organization, demanding immediate reopening of the university. If the university remains closed and if there is insistence to maintain the representatives of professional immorality as officials, the FSTMB will take other measures in defense of autonomy,under which the officials will be democratically elected.

Interior Minister Guillermo Jimenez Gallo has repeated that the opening of the UMSA should be decided by CNES officials. He remarked that the present closure of the university is a factor distorting the present democratization process in which the Bolivian people are engaged. He also said that actions to replace university officials, appointed according to the Bolivian basic university law, were antidemocratic.

PAZ ESTENSSORO WILL RETURN FOR MNR PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATION

PY181442Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1334 GMT 18 May 78 PY

[Excerpts] Lima, 18 May--It was announced here today that former Bolivian President Paz Estenssoro has agreed to be a presidential candidate in the upcoming general elections in his country.

The former Bolivian president, who left this morning for La Paz, accepted the candidacy offered by his party, the National Revolutionary Movement [MNR], a few hours before leaving on his return trip, according to statements made by high party leaders who accompany him.

In short statements to the press, Paz Estenssoro said he looked upon the landlocked situation of his country as a basic Bolivian problem, for which a solution must be found in a short time.

Regarding relations with Chile, he said that if he were elected he would not resume them but negotiate for them.

Paz Estenssoro Arrives

PY181727Y La Paz Radio Panamericana in Spanish 1700 GMT 18 May 78 PY

[Excerpt] Victor Paz Estenssoro, former Bolivian president and leader of the National Revolutionary Movement, arrived in the country at 1100 by a Braniff flight from the United States.

INTEGRATION SECRETARY VOICES HOPE FOR AMAZON INTEGRATION

PY171602Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1839 GMT 12 May 78 PY

[Excerpts] La Paz, 12 May--Bolivian Secretary General for Integration Willy Vargas stated here today that the Amazon pact sponsored by Brazil might become a Latin American achievement within a short time.

Vargas indicated that Bolivia is very interested in Amazonic integration because most of its large eastern rivers are tributaries of the Amazon River.

Vargas added that the multinational integration and development project will further improve the economic and social situation of thousands of Bolivians who currently live in areas which are potentially wealthy but currently neglected by national development due to the lack of stable communications.

Bolivia is interested in free transit on navigable rivers which empty into the Amazon in order to have a new natural outlet to the Atlantic, Vargas concluded.

The Bolivian integration secretary will be president of Bolivia's delegation to the coming Amazon Pact meeting in Caracas.

MINISTER JIMENEZ GALLO DENIES FSB CHARGES AGAINST COURT

PY182050Y La Paz Radio Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 18 May 78 PY

[Excerpt] Interior Minister Guillermo Jimenez Gallo has submitted to President Banzer a report on the national political situation, which he called absolutely normal. He also referred to Bolvian Socialist Falange [FSB] leaders' statements that the National Electoral Court has committed irregularities which invalidate the present process.

[begin Jimenez Gallo recording] There is no doubt that those charges surprised me and even caused me concern. But I believe they were hasty, because they are not true and the citizenry knows this. As I told you on an earlier occasion, the only connection between the executive branch and the Electoral Court is through a single member. Furthermore, the National Electoral Court is an autonomous organization that makes all its decisions independently, in accordance with the laws which set it up and the laws regulating its operation. I firmly reject the accusation that there has been any interference by the Interior Ministry in the decisions of the court. That absolutely never happened. [end recording] He said that there are always suspicions in all electoral processes but the court, as a new constitutional branch with its own autonomy, is within the law. The interior minister also referred to disorders in the town of Tiahuanaco last Sunday, stating that no one was detained.

[begin Jimenez Gallo recording] Right now there is no one in detention. It was reported to me that some people, unfortunately, were drinking and were enthusiastic in supporting their political line. They assumed some attitudes which led to fighting and were detained for a time, but there are no longer any detainees. [end recording]

He also denied that Interior Ministry personnel were involved in those incidents. He categorically denied any intervention by his ministry.

THREE FIRMS ENGAGED IN OIL EXPLORATION

PY182051Y La Paz Radio Cruz del Sur Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 17 May 78 PY

[Text] Three firms contracted by the Bolivian Government Oil Deposits are at present busily engaged in the search for hydrocarbons in the departments of Cochabamba, Santa Cruz and Tarija. The firms are: Phillips Petroleum, Occidental Boliviana and Tesoro Petroleum, according to a report from the Energy and Hydrocarbons Ministry.

This ministry also stated that Phillips Petroleum is about to finish the drilling of the Villarroel No 1 well, which is at present 4,416 m deep. This company will also begin drilling for oil in the Ivirganzama area in Cochabamba. After the company finishes this work it will report on the results.

Occidental Petroleum has concluded the drilling of the Pita 15 well, which turned out to be productive. At this point the company is getting ready to drill the Pita 16 well, which will have a depth of 2,100 m. Government spokesmen have indicated that Tesoro Petroleum is overhauling the La Vertiente No 2 well which is the one that indicated oil in the Chaco area of Tarija Department. The three foreign enterprises are carrying out an intensive search for hydrocarbons throughout the nation, according to the Energy Ministry.

GEISEL RECEIVES GUINEA-BISSAU FOREIGN MINISTER

PY181420Y Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 18 May 78 PY

[Excerpt] Yesterday afternoon President Ernesto Geisel received Victor Saude Maria, commissioner of foreign affairs of Guinea-Bissau, who was escorted by Brazilian Foreign Minister Azeredo da Silveira.

FIGUEIREDO TO MEET PRESIDENT EANES DURING VISIT

PY182039Y Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 16 May 78 p 6 PY

[Excerpt] Brasilia--Portuguese President Ramalho Eanes will meet with Gen Joao Baptista de Figueiredo in Brasilia at 1500 on 23 May. This announcement was made yesterday by Itamaraty spokesman Luiz Felipe Lampreia, who indicated that the meeting will take place in response to General Eanes' request.

The visit of the Portuguese president will officially begin on 22 May and will end on 26 May. According to Lampreia, "General Figueiredo will meet with him at the Portuguese Embassy in Brasilia because he is the chief of state of a friendly nation."

PORTELLA PRESENTS NEW REFORM PROPOSALS TO ARENA LEADERS

PY182038Y Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 17 May 78 p 2 PY

[Excerpt] Senator Petronio Portella has presented to the national directorate of ARENA [National Renewal Alliance] the reform proposals the government will submit to Congress in June. These constitutional amendments will become effective on 15 March 1979, except for the elimination of Law 477 [prohibiting political activities in universities], for which no date has been decided yet.

The proposals presented by Senator Portella during a 2-hour meeting with the ARENA national directorate are: elimination of Institutional Act No 5 [AI-5] and Article 185 of the constitution; reinstatement of habeas corpus (in full or with restrictions); restoration of magistrate privileges; and institution of state safeguards in addition to the state of siege.

The first of those safeguards announced by Portella, to be called "emergency measures," will be decreed by the president without consulting Congress, but reporting to Congress on the measures when the period of their implementation is over (that time period is not yet determined). The "emergency measures" can be adopted under the state of siege "without affecting the whole country and applying only to specific events and areas."

The other safeguard is the "state of emergency," to be applied by the president for a 30-day renewable period without requesting congressional authorization. Once that period is over, the president must account for the measures to Congress, and all those who had been affected under the state of emergency may seek redress in court.

Under the "emergency measures," the "state of emergency" and the state of siege, the president can adopt the following coercive measures: forced residence at a given site; arrest in facilities not used for common criminals; house search and consequent arrest; suspension of the right to meet and associate; censorship of mail, press communications and public amusements; and temporary use of seizure of properties belonging to decentralized agencies, public enterprises, mixed-economy societies and public service concessionaires, and the suspension of the functionaries thereof.

Portella also said that the president will no longer be able to cancel political rights once AI-5 is eliminated. The cancellation of political rights will be replaced by a procedure whereby the suspension or cancellation of mandates is decided by the Supreme Federal Court. This procedure will stipulate that the attorney general should file suit against a congressman in the Supreme Federal Court. As the court takes his case under advisement, the congressman will have his political rights suspended and will lose his mandate if found guilty.

ARENA, MDB SENATORS URGE MAGALHAES TO BACK BENTES MONTEIRO

PY181857Y Florianopolis Radio Diario da Manha in Portuguese 1515 GMT 18 May 78 PY

[Text] In Brasilia yesterday, Senators Accioly Filho [National Renewal Alliance, ARENA--Parana State], Teotonio Vilela [Brazilian Democratic Movement, MDB--Alagoas] and Paulo Brossard [MDB--Rio Grande do Sul] tried to convince Senator Jose Magalhaes Pinto to withdraw from the next presidential election.

The senators do not want Magalhaes Pinto to run for president. Instead they want him to support another MDB candidate, namely, General Bentes Monteiro.

The same effort was made previously by former Minister Severo Gomes without any positive results.

After a 2-hour meeting, Magalhaes Pinto told the senators that he would not withdraw.

Severo Gomes told the reporters that he believes an MDB candidate has a good chance because there is discontent in several sectors and within ARENA.

MDB LEADERS DISCUSS BENTES MONTEIRO CANDIDACY WITH ABREU

PY182238Y Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 17 May 78 p 1 PY

[Text] The three MDB [Brazilian Democratic Movement] vice presidents, Paulo Brossard, Roberto Saturnino and Tancredo Neves, have met with Gen Hugo Abreu to discuss possible MDB support for the candidacy of Gen Euler Bentes Monteiro as president. Senator Magalhaes Pinto met with Gen Luis Carlos Tourinho (ret), but he did not disclose any information.

MDB President Deputy Ulysses Guimaraes said that he was not aware of the meeting of the three MDB leaders with General Abreu, while Colonel Ludwig [presidential spokesman] stated that Planalto Palace accepted the legality of the presentation of an MDB candidate. To win the presidency, the opposition will need 63 National Renewal Alliance votes.

SAO PAULO AUTO STRIKE NEGOTIATIONS CONTINUE

PY190151Y Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 18 May 78 p 1 PY

[Text] In view of Ford of Brazil's inflexible decision "not to negotiate under pressure," no agreement was reached yesterday during the hearing which brought together labor and management of the Sao Paulo automotive industry. The decision of the regional labor court concerning the strikes in Sao Bernardo do Campo, now affecting only the Ford company, was scheduled for today.

Luis Inacio da Silva (Lula), the president of the Iron and Steel Workers Union, stated that "the worker knows that strikes are prohibited by law, but he wants to show that the law is wrong." Last night, union leaders approved a note expressing hope for "reasonable and democratic negotiations, which never serve as an excuse for radicalism, repression or violence."

In Brasilia, Col Rubem Ludwig, the presidential press adviser, said that he believed the strikes to be "a sign of the times in which we are living," and denied the possibility of Planalto intervention in case the movement is judged illegal. Senator Petronio Portella explained that present strike restrictions will not be changed "right now."

Also in Sao Bernardo, Mercedes Benz management proposed a 15-percent increase in three phases (the demand had been for 20 percent), and the workers made a counterproposal asking only for a reduction in the 9-month span needed for the implementation of the increase. The firm will announce its decision on Tuesday, and the employees agreed to return to their jobs. In Santo Andre, Phillips reported that one of the factory's sections went on strike demanding a wage increase.

Strikes Ruled Illegal

PY190102Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0016 GMT 19 May 78 PY

[Text] Sao Paulo, 18 May--The Sao Paulo labor court resolved today that the strikes which are paralyzing the Sao Paulo automobile industry are illegal. Strikers must return to their jobs tomorrow, Friday, according to a decision approved by a vote of 15-1.

4-MONTH DROUGHT ENDS; LOSSES IRREVERSIBLE

PY180056Y Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 16 May 78 PY

[Excerpt] As the 4-month drought in the country's southern region approached an unbearable point in some areas, rains came yesterday to the states of Santa Catarina, Rio Grande do Sul and Parana. Although rains have just begun to fall, it is hoped they will continue so that water levels of reservoirs and rivers can return to normal. This is an important event for the population of those states and the whole country since those states produce the largest percentage of food both for internal consumption and export.

The damage caused by the monthslong drought is irreparable, however. To aid in harvesting drought leftovers and in next year's planting of soybean, corn, wheat, beans, rice, etc, the government will act through the Central Bank, Bank of Brazil and agencies from various ministries to provide necessary assistance to agriculture, cattleraising and related industries.

The director of rural credit at the Central Bank, (Jose Rionar Mello), has announced that this bank will step up its "Proagro" activities in the southern region, even by paying idemnity for lost crops in order to minimize the damage caused by the drought. "Proagro" has already been authorized to disburse resources on the order of 5 billion cruzeiros. Estimates of damage inflicted by the drought vary: While Agriculture Minister Allyson Paulinelly estimates the loss at 40 billion cruzeiros, the president of the National Agriculture Confederation considers the loss to be twice that figure.

U.S. READY TO ACCEPT BRAZIL'S GATT PROPOSAL

PY180001Y Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 16 May 78 p 30 PY

[Text] Brasilia--Finance Minister Mario Henrique Simonsen told O ESTADO yesterday that the United States is ready to accept the Brazilian proposal regarding the export incentives code, which is now under discussion within GATT. Under this proposal, the developing countries--those whose, like Brazil, are in an intermediate state of development--would continue to grant the current incentives to their export products, while promising that these incentives would be gradually eliminated within a 10-year period. The industrialized countries should have no right to grant any subsidy to their export products, but the underdeveloped countries, or countries with insufficient markets, should be allowed all the subsidies or incentives needed to stimulate development of their foreign trade. According to the finance minister, that theory--"sold" by him to U.S. Treasury Secretary Michael Blumenthal--has every chance of being accepted "and will finally prevail as the most reasonable."

Simonsen explained that his conversation with Ambassador Alan Wolff last Tuesday was quite frank, but that he never reached the point of threatening to withdraw the Brazilian delegation from the GATT negotiations if the United States did not allow Brazilian participation in discussions on export incentives.

The minister said: We began a discussion on what is forbidden and what is not, and since Wolff admitted that all our incentives are forbidden, I told him that there was no reason to continue the debate because the only thing we could do was sign an agreement banning implementation of the forbidden incentives.

It was at that point that Ambassador Wolff changed his tone and began raising questions regarding points of agreement which Brazil had reached with the United States, the most important being the inclusion of a damage clause within the export incentives code. Under this clause, an importing country will impose compensatory tariffs on products of an exporting country only if it is proven that the product is causing serious damage to the similar industry of the importing country.

The finance minister feels that there already exists a solution to the question of damage investigation. It will first of all be the job of government and paragovernment organizations of the importing country, but the exporting country will be able to resort to an organization to be created within the scope of GATT, an alternative which he considers to be "perfectly acceptable."

Simonsen said that the statement made last Tuesday by Fred Bergsten, U.S. Treasury undersecretary, at the U.S.-Brazilian Chamber of Commerce in New York, was distorted by the news media, which did not give an overall view of the arguments presented by Bergsten. The minister then asked for the full text of Bergsten's speech, and after reading it he concluded that, contrary to exerting pressure or making threats, the under secretary recognized that Brazil is an important partner in world trade with tasks commensurate with its new position.

There were no threats of imposing surtaxes or compensatory tariffs, and according to Simonsen, as of the end of this year there will be no more revision of the surtaxes imposed 2 years ago on the export of shoes because the Americans have decided to wait for the results of negotiations regarding the export incentives code, which are expected to conclude by the end of this year.

LEIGH DENIES BACKING NEW PLAN TO RESTORE DEMOCRACY

PY181919Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1549 GMT 18 May 78 PY

[Excerpts] Santiago, Chile, 18 May--Gen Gustavo Leigh, commander of the Chilean Air Force [FACH], today denied his involvement in a project concerning a political alternative aimed at the restoration of democracy in Chile. Asked about this rumor, which has circulated here in the last few hours, Leigh said: "I have not drafted a political plan and the government is not holding any debate on it."

Civilian sources close to General Leigh, who is a member of the Chilean military junta, disclosed the existence of such a project which they reported had been submitted to the high-ranking officers of the armed forces to accelerate the return of institutional normality.

Answering journalists, the FACH commander insisted that "there is no such debate; there is no such plan. I am quite surprised by this situation." He added that these are just rumors and that the guidelines for the political future of the country were outlined by President Augusto Pinochet 6 weeks ago.

General Leigh noted at the end of March the need to speed up this process of normalization and proposed during private talks "the resignation of the four members of the government junta and its replacement by a new one."

BOLIVIA WARNED FOLLOWING VILLALPANDO REMARKS IN ARGENTINA

PY190202Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0038 GMT 19 May 78 PY

[Text] Santiago, 18 May--Chile warned Bolivia today that the Bolivian campaign to discredit Chile closes any possibility of an outlet to the sea. This warning is included in a statement made by the Foreign Ministry refuting as false the extemporaneous remarks made yesterday in Buenos Aires by Bolivian Army Commander Gen Alfonso Villalpando.

The document says: "The Foreign Ministry is obligated to point out that those remarks--in addition to being too extemporaneous to be made in front of a chief of state whose country maintains cordial relations with Chile--are at the same time unjust, false and damaging to Bolivian objectives of obtaining an outlet to the Pacific."

During a ceremony in which he was decorated by President Jorge Rafael Videla, Villapando said that Chile is incapable of peaceful coexistence and friendship, and accused it of hindering international harmony and impeding the ideal of Latin American integration and solidarity.

The Foreign Ministry indicated that General Villalpando's statement marks a new campaign of attacks and insults against Chile which began in Bolivia. It added that Bolivian officials should keep in mind that this kind of position only closes the possibility for dialog between Chile and Bolivia, the only way to achieve Bolivia's aspirations. The document also pointed out that the Chilean Government has never made offensive or unfriendly remarks against the government or the people of Bolivia like those of General Villalpando.

Perhaps the Bolivian officials misunderstood the significance of the respectful attitude which Chile demonstrated and is demonstrating, it emphasized.

The Foreign Ministry concluded by warning that Chile will never accept any pressure, regardless of where it comes from, to seek solutions with those who do not know how to show the due respect demanded for international coexistence.

FOREIGN MINISTER CUBILLOS ANNOUNCES OPEN FOREIGN POLICY

PY162223Y Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 18 May 78 PY

[Text] Foreign Minister Hernan Cubillos has announced a policy of complete openness in foreign relations. He said that this open policy would be implemented with all the world's countries which are willing to respect our sovereignty and to adopt a policy of nonintervention in our domestic affairs. Our desire, he added, is to forgive and forget the past. After the advent of the military movement which ousted the Marxist Government, Chile has been one of the countries which has been attacked the most by international Marxism-Leninism, he said. The new foreign minister also stated that he did not favor placing labels on democracy. With respect to this he stated that President Augusto Pinochet has repeatedly asserted that the goal of the nation's institutionalization is an authoritarian and humanitarian democracy. What many people want, he added, is for Chile to return to "democracy," but we are heading toward a democracy of our own making and at our own pace--and it will be a truly Chilean democracy. Finally, he mentioned Chile's image abroad. Hernan Cubillos recognized that it is not too good but he added that it is not bad, either. He asserted that it has been improving during the last 2 years.

NAVY COMMANDER DISCUSSES BOLIVIAN SEA ACCESS

PY190110Y Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 18 May 78 PY

[Summary] Adm Jose Toribio Merino Castro, commander in chief of the Chilean Navy, has made some comments in connection with observance of the month of the sea, including remarks about the Chilean Navy's heroes and other related subjects. He stated that the courage shown by Pratt and his comrades is a great example for Chileans today. He stated that the Chilean merchant marine, which has been in existence almost since independence, has greatly contributed to the country's economic development and fulfills an essential mission, transporting our goods to the rest of the world and bringing in raw materials.

Admiral Merino spoke about the problems of countries which do not have coasts on the Pacific. He said that in a case like Bolivia's, it is logical to assume that if they are not able to find an outlet to the sea to the west, they would try to find another way. [begin Merino recording] Bolivia's only outlets to the Pacific have always been Antofagasta and Arica. Even though Antofagasta and Arica were at one time Bolivian territories, their port installations have historically been geared to serving Chilean navigational needs. At the same time, it is the Chileans who have always been interested in using the Pacific. [end recording]

"In answer to a question, Admiral Merino said that it was very improbable that a war would take place in Latin America. Small disputes should be dealt with within international organizations such as the United Nations, the Organization of American States, the Inter-American Treaty for Mutual Assistance, or the International Court of Justice at the Hague. That is why the idea of war here is absurd. However, all countries should be prepared to confront any emergency--either regional or international."

GOVERNMENT WORKERS STRIKE CARRIED OUT PEACEFULLY

PA182123Y Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 18 May 78 PA

[Text] Bogota--The government workers strike announced for today was being carried out in a peaceful manner at noon while strict military and police controls were in effect in the main cities of the country.

A large number of the 600,000 government workers went to work, but they have been participating in a sitdown strike since early this morning. It was reported that the sitdown was fully observed in such places as the Justice and Finance ministries, but was only complied with partially in the Health, Public Works and Development ministries. Activities at the airports are normal except at El Dorado in Bogota, where a partial customs personnel strike is causing difficulties.

The government has issued a report stating that there was complete calm throughout the country, describing the attack on a bus in Bogota early today as an isolated incident.

Saturia Guerra, civil service director, was analyzing the situation at noon today and announced that a statement will be issued in the next few hours.

Reports on the partial strike of government workers in Medellin, Cali, Cucuta, Barranquilla and other cities described the situation as completely calm.

The strike was fully complied with at the Civil Registry Office, but the employees announced that they will resume activities this afternoon.

In a statement issued today, the interunion committee for workers at the service of the state reported that the strike was a complete success and praised the peaceful manner in which it was carried out.

In some places such as the Institute for Development of Renewable Natural Resources and (?Agustin Codafi) of Bogota, the government workers strike had a festive atmosphere.

The communications sector is working normally. In Bogota, however, business activity has dropped considerably despite the fact that transportation services were provided. No classes were held today as the teachers complied fully with the strike order, a spokesman from the Education Ministry reported. Other sources think that the situation will begin to return to normal this afternoon [words indistinct].

Further on Workers Strike

PA190228Y Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 19 May 78 PA

[Text] Bogota--Although tense, the public order situation in the country has been normal, marred only by sporadic incidents by agitators and some peaceful demonstrations by government employees. This was stated by the military high command, which said that every means placed at its disposal will be used to prevent activists and extremists from capitalizing on the strike of the government workers, which ends tonight. Meanwhile, police authorities were studying the legal situation of persons arrested today as a result of the strike.

The government issued a report tonight stating that the situation throughout the country is normal and emphasized the conduct of government workers during the strike.

Minister Alfredo Araujo Grau said that the cessation of activities was total at the majority of the ministries, whereas in others it was only partial. Araujo Grau added that in spite of the conduct of the government workers, the government will study the pertinent measures to punish those who participated in this strike.

Asked by this station for an official opinion on the success or failure of the strike, Minister Araujo Grau said that he did not have sufficient information available to evaluate the results.

In Medellin the military authorities issued a report tonight declaring that Antioquia Department was completely normal and the 4th Brigade command reported no incidents as a result of the government workers strike. It was said that Medellin was very orderly today and that, other than the prevailing inactivity in government offices, the daily activities of Colombians proceeded peacefully. Station 100 [Estacion 100], the police command, the Administrative Department of Security and the F-2 reported to this station that no demonstrations were held and that all police stations reported complete calm.

Tonight, there was fear for the life of student Horacio Diaz Montes, who was wounded in a clash with authorities on Monday. According to doctors, the youth has a bullet lodged in his brain and there is little hope that he will survive.

The police high command, headed by Col Adolfo Leon (Gomez), is now making a detailed examination of the public order situation in Antioquia Department.

BOGOTA POLICE IMPLEMENT PLAN TO PREVENT BUS BURNING

PA182246Y Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 18 May 78 PA

[Text] Bogota--The police implemented a new plan today to try to prevent attacks against urban buses, assigning special guards to each bus. Several policemen dressed in civilian clothes are riding on the buses to facilitate the capture of individuals who attempt to sabotage the bus service. With the plan already in effect, several policemen this morning prevented the burning of a bus belonging to the District Transportation Corporation which the attackers tried to douse with gasoline. Bogota remains under strict military surveillance.

In Armenia a bus was burned this morning by a presumed guerrilla group. The bus was intercepted on Via Bolivar by unknown individuals who set it on fire. The driver of the bus, Alonso (Ocatones) Gutierrez, and student Jose Bernal Rivera were injured in the incident. The latter was presumably the one who set the bus on fire. Minutes after the incident, a clandestine communique attributed the attack to an M-19 support group.

STUDENTS DEMONSTRATE OVER UNIVERSITY BUDGET DEFICIT

PA180103Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 2345 GMT 17 May 78 PA

[Text] Quito, 17 May (EFE)--The police today broke up a large demonstration of university students who attempted to talk with members of the Supreme Council of Government. The students were carrying placards and shouting slogans outside the presidential palace, demanding a solution to the Quito Central University budget deficit, which amounts to 374 million sucres ($14.9 million) this year.

Antiriot vehicles and policemen armed with rubber and wooden clubs used tear gas to disperse the students. Several arrests were made.

Approximately 1,500 Quito Central University workers declared an indefinite strike 1 week ago to demand a solution to the budget problem. Only 24 hours ago the acting rector of the university, Xavier Bustos, was received by Gen Guillermo Duran, member of the triumvirate and director of the so-called "economic front" of the Ecuadorean Government.

In that meeting, which the rector labeled as "very positive," it was confirmed that the government is interested in definitely and permanently resolving the university's problems, but in keeping with the country's economic reality. General Duran also offered to promote university infrastructure but proposed that the universities help themselves by limiting the indiscriminate enrollment of students and making the students pay for their education according to their economic capacity.

CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS POSTPONED FOR 2 WEEKS

Election Preparations Behind Schedule

PY181220Y La Paz Radio Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 18 May 78 PY

[Text] Lima--The elections for a constituent assembly which, in principle, should be held next month, might be postponed, according to a statement by the National Electoral Council. The elections, planned for 4 June, are the first stage in (?arriving at) a civilian administration after government by military regimes for the last 10 years.

Ulises Montoya Manfredi, president of the Electoral Council, has stated to newsmen that the preparations for the elections are behind schedule and have become a race against time.

Electoral Council Seeks Delay

PY182333Y Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 18 May 78 PY

[Text] The National Electoral Council, in a private session, today decided to ask the government to postpone the election of delegates for the constituent assembly until 18 June. The election was originally set for 4 June. This request was made pursuant to a request by leaders of the National Front of Workers and Peasants and the national union.

Ulises Montoya Manfredi, president of the National Electoral Council, told the press that if the government approves the request, there will be 14 additional days to make the final arrangements for this important election.

Government Postpones Elections

PY190334Y Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 0245 GMT 19 May 78 PY

[Decree No 22,191 signed in Lima on 18 May 1978 by President Francisco Morales Bermudez and his entire cabinet]

[Text] Considering that the National Electoral Council, through note No 060/78-JNE dated 18 May 1978, requested that the election of representatives for the constituent assembly be postponed in view of the reasons stated in the note; and that based on these reasons it is proper to honor this request; pursuant to the powers bestowed upon him, and with the approval of the Council of Ministers, the president of the republic has issued the following decree:

The election of representatives to the constituent assembly called by decree Law (?21,149) will be held on 18 June 1978.

RADIO COMMENTS ON ELECTIONS, SOCIAL UNREST IN COUNTRY

PA181518Y Lima Radio Del Pacifico in Spanish 1300 GMT 18 May 78 PA

[Excerpts] Three days after the readjustment and raising of the prices of various products, this continues to be the topic of popular discussion. (?Violent) reactions have been controlled by the police. Meanwhile, the atmosphere surrounding the elections continues to be normal.

There has been no further news about rumored efforts to postpone the elections.

In the interior of the country, the police and even the army are maintaining public order. In Arequipa army troops have been supporting the police forces since the (Corongocho) race track was set on fire. Troops are also aiding the police in (?the areas of) Huancayo and Chiclayo. Activities are normal in Chimbote. Transportation is partially paralyzed in Arequipa. In Cuzco the events to commemorate Tupac Amaru's sacrifice, scheduled to be held tomorrow, have been suspended.

The Labor Ministry has announced that the wage increases approved by the government were effective as of 9 May.

Meanwhile General Velit Sabattini, the new interior minister, appealed during a news conference for an end to the social unrest. He admitted that the newly adopted measures are harsh, but stressed that the economic situation, which we must bravely confront, is also severe.

Inspection of the polling places for the 4 June elections began yesterday. The election date remains the same pending the pronouncement of the National Electoral Council, whose president said 48 hours ago that there is a battle against time, and that the request for postponement of the elections is under review.

LABOR UNIONS CALL FOR NATIONWIDE STRIKE 22, 23 MAY

PA182110Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2050 GMT 18 May 78 PA

[Excerpt] Lima, 18 May (AFP)--The most important Peruvian labor unions announced here today that on Monday and Tuesday there will be a nationwide strike to protest the latest economic measures adopted by the government.

The strike has been called by the communist General Confederation of Workers of Peru (CGTP), the Christian National Confederation of Workers (CNT), the government-created Central Organization of Workers of the Peruvian Revolution (CTRP), Lima region, the National Agrarian Confederation (CNA) and other federations and labor unions.

Labor Minister Comments

PY190355Y Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 19 May 78 PY

[Text] The labor minister expressed confidence today that the workers will show a sense of responsibility and maturity by rejecting the planned workers strike, which he called a maneuver for agitation and disturbance.

Maj Gen Jose Garcia Calderon stated that the government is aware of the fact that the economic compensation granted does not fully satisfy the established [word indistinct], but that the best effort was made to alleviate the impact of the economic measures which had to be issued.

The labor minister declared that he was sure that with the plan for economic reactivation we will succeed and will very soon overcome the situation we are now experiencing.

The minister made a direct call for workers to continue contributing their effort and their work, as they have been doing so far, for the economic recovery of the country.

AP PARTY ATTACKS GOVERNMENT WASTE OF PUBLIC FUNDS

PA182300Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2110 GMT 18 May 78 PA

[Text] Lima, 18 May (LATIN)--The Popular Action (AP) Party today criticized the economic measures adopted recently by the government, stating that the harshness of these measures "is the result of the unbelievable waste of our public funds and loans."

"AP protests the excessive sacrifices that have been imposed on the Peruvian people and condemns the brutal repression which is trying to silence their protests," the AP communique states.

Popular Action is under the leadership of former President Fernando Belaunde Terry. This organization charges in its communique that the price increase in food items "is being unmercifully levied on a poor and underfed people."

On Monday, the military government increased the price of vegetable oil, milk, bread and noodles by more than 45 percent. The price of gasoline, kerosene and cooking gas was similarly increased. These increases immediately resulted in street demonstrations throughout the country. The demonstrations left a toll of four persons dead and hundreds of persons injured. There have been many arrests.

The AP document states: "The dramatic situation that burdens the Peruvian people is the result of the de facto government's stubborn determination to retain power despite the rejection of practically all the citizens and large sectors of the armed forces." Popular Action has renounced its participation in the 4 June constituent assembly elections. The assembly will dedicate 12 months to studying the reform of the Peruvian Constitution.

The AP communique, signed by Belaunde, who was overthrown in 1968 by the late Gen Juan Velasco Alvarado, states: "After 10 years of military dictatorship, the country is convinced that there is nothing more harmful than a government without controls." Under such critical circumstances, AP has called for general elections in order to constitute a legitimate government "under conditions that will allow the crisis to be overcome and the start of the unpostponable task of reconstructing the country."

The document notes: "Popular Action, echoing the people's demands, reiterates its position that the present economic and financial problem and its serious social consequences will not be solved as long as the political problem is not decidedly and objectively faced."

INTERMINISTERIAL ECONOMIC COMMISSION REORGANIZED

PY170356Y Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 17 May 78 PY

[Text] The Council of Ministers today decided that the Interministerial Commission for Economic and Financial Affairs will be presided over by the minister of economy and finance, who will consider all decree-laws and supreme decrees of an economic and financial nature before they are submitted to the Council of Ministers for approval. This measure is included in Decree-Law No 22,189. The commission was previously presided over by the prime minister.

Also, through Decree-Law No 22,190, the reorganization of provincial and district councils in Lima and Callao, designed to overcome deficiencies in their administrative structure, was extended to 15 June 1978. This communique was issued by the prime minister.

GENERAL RAPELA ADDRESSES ARMY DAY CEREMONY

PY181943Y Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1430 GMT 18 May 78 PY

[Speech by Gen Julio Cesar Rapela, chief of joint staff, at the Plaza del Ejercito in Montevideo on occasion of Army Day and anniversary of Battle of Las Piedras on 18 May--live]

[Text] [Intercepted in progress] ...our mission in this fatherland of ours. We who consider ourselves the legitimate heirs to its history, we who have deep-rooted feelings toward a military way of life, view our fatherland in the only light we can. We want to see it the way our forefathers wanted to see it, the way it should be today and forever: just, free and sovereign. Thus, our feelings today are the same Artigas had in the past. We feel that we have an inalienable duty of serving the republic.

At decisive points in history, when the existence of the nation is at stake, when there is no choice other than living or dying, the armed forces cannot shirk their essential responsibility. The nation has attained its sovereign status through the efforts of the armed forces and its permanence in history depends on their strength and loyalty. The surrender of the armed forces will lead to defeat and obsequious servitude.

The military profession is not like any other profession. It is a way of being, a state of mind and a way of life, a vocation which demands service to the fatherland and to its basic values and desires. The men--and especially the officers--of the armed forces must be clearly aware of what they must defend and what they must fight against. They must be able to see truth and justice in the midst of the prevailing ideological confusion.

The time when our job was restricted to specific operations and the preparations necessary to carry them out is long past. Today we find war in unexpected places. In times of peace, underhanded activities are going on to undermine cohesion, the strength of the country and the people's feelings for the nation.

The psychological, socioeconomic and physical weapon of Marxist subversion is systematic terror. Kidnapings, murders, bombings and sabotage which are part of the variety of violent attacks against persons and property constitute the physical side of terror. The massive campaigns of lies, slander, distortion and confusion, aimed at moral annihilation, absolute discrediting, and isolation of persons who try to spread truth among their fellow citizens, is the psychological side of terror. In this way, subversion offsets tactical operations and the most technically advanced weapons, because it wages its war in the midst of the people and its targets are their minds rather than their bodies.

Therefore, if security forces are to defeat subversion they cannot be led by purely professional-minded officers. Nowadays, officers must have doctrinarian training which can give them a broad viewpoint and supply them with the knowledge and capabilities necessary to take stock of and solve vital matters related to the task of governing the nation.

In the face of this political, economic and social invasion perpetrated by communist subversion, the armed forces have been able to overcome that merely professional attitude which made them the armed branch of a constitutionally legal system which lacked any meaning from the nationalistic and patriotic point of view. That is why--in nefarious circumstances which the country remembers so well, for it was falling apart in the midst of chaos, corruption and social disintegration--the armed forces took over the management of public affairs and undertook the responsibility of returning the country to peace and social tranquillity, to economic well-being, to freedom of thought and to freedom of speech.

The events themselves had established the need for armed forces intervention in the task of leading the nation. Thus, the armed forces struggled against subversion and at the same time they launched national reconstruction, influencing all sectors of public and private activities, imbued with the purpose of strongly stimulating development in a way which the political government had been unable to do.

We are on our way, and today we are in the midst of a revolutionary process which is an example for the entire free world. The joint efforts of civilians and military are leading us toward a new, more just, more sovereign and freer Uruguay. However, the task is neither easy nor simple. There is a pitiless campaign throughout the world aimed at undermining cohesion, the strength of the country and the people's patriotism.

This campaign from abroad is guided by groups at the service of Marxism and by traitors to the fatherland, and is being echoed by people with bad intentions, with ulterior motives and the naive. To all of them, to the naive, to those who do not want to understand us, I tell them that it is not with clemency, with amnesties, with extraditions or with releases from jail that we will make our dear fatherland more dignified and sovereign.

I must remind you that on Army Day 6 years ago there had been an attempt to frighten the armed forces by a despicable murder of four of its members, clearly demonstrating the brutality which prevails among subversives. However, the shedding of this blood marked the beginning of the end. It is the high price we have paid in terms of human lives and material loss that strengthens our conviction that we must not irresponsibly launch a suicidal revisionism, forgetting our past experience.

We are not willing to supply the forces of subversion with new combatants so that the scourge of subversion may continue to spread throughout the world. Those who are impatient, those who strive for a more accelerated pace for our process and who seek to divert it from its noble objectives are warned that, just like Artigas, who had to struggle often against selfishness, misunderstanding and ignorance but who nevertheless kept his faith in the people and the revolution, we will firmly continue our task without hesitation, convinced that the arduous road to national reconstruction is being achieved without haste but on an ongoing basis, so that we may achieve a new institutional order without old vices but with the freedom we wish our fatherland to have.

To the people of Uruguay, to those citizens of good will who are supporting us with faith and hope in the struggle for a new Uruguay, I tell them on this anniversary of the army that the fatherland no longer ends at its geographical borders and can no longer be defended at the military level alone. Since the enemies of the nation have focused on our entire way of life, in its economic, social and political aspects, as their target, the fatherland must be defended by all citizens and especially by the armed forces, both at the political and socioeconomic level, by all means available of effectively counteracting the tactics of the enemy.

Every hour of the day we must do something which will help us to defend our country. The times in which we live are not those of leisure and lack of concern.

To the members of the armed forces whose sacrifice, efforts and vocation for service have made the rebirth of the fatherland possible, I wish to remind them that our military duties are primarily to guarantee discipline and train our troops for the struggle. But they also call us to abide by the objectives sought by the republic.

The republic gives us a place in the military hierarchy and invests us with a rank on the basis of our capabilities and our loyalty as citizens. Our commitment is to not let it down.

EDUCATION MINISTER DARRACQ LAUDS VICTORY OVER SUBVERSION

PY1820342Y [Editorial report PY] Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish at 1830 GMT 18 May begins live coverage of Army Day ceremony in Las Piedras which commemorates the Battle of Las Piedras in 1811. After reporting the arrival of President Aparicio Mendez, the network switches to the speech, in progress, by Education and Culture Minister Daniel Darracq, who is speaking in the name of the government.

For several minutes, Darracq recalls the events of 1811 and the victory of the forces under Jose Artigas which led to the establishment of the first Uruguayan constitution. Darracq says that the years have not dimmed the memory of those events and that this tradition has continued to guide the nation up to the present day.

The minister then compares the struggle of Artigas with the contemporary struggle against terrorism.

"Each generation has confronted with dignity the demands of the hour," Darracq states. "During our times, the people, the armed forces and the government, conscious of their responsibilities, have coordinated their aspirations to restore order and those principles which were the basis of the national revolution in order to adapt them to the demands, concerns and challenges of this period of humanity in which peaceful coexistence--after our society defeated the last attacks of terrorism--was achieved justly and with moderation.

"Under the dramatic circumstances in which subversion had ruptured the security of the government and endangered the existence of the nation itself, the armed forces played the leading role in events which had already affected the nation. The nature of the mission which was fulfilled with solidarity is reflected in the present order and in the normal operation of public and private activities.

"In the last crisis we had to face the leading roles were played by the Uruguayan people and the armed forces [words indistinct] of the times who with understanding were able to make the necessary sacrifice to preserve the values and principles which are part of our heritage."

Darracq's speech concludes at 1848 GMT, and live coverage ends at 1909 following speeches by (Aldo Coya), president of the Las Piedras Patriotic Committee, and Col Rodolfo Gonzalez Diaz, who spoke as the military representative.

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY TO DISCUSS CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

PA181555Y Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2315 GMT 17 May 78 PA

[Text] Vice President Gerardo Gonzalez formally announced today that the National Assembly of Corregimiento Representatives will be called to special sessions in September to discuss amendments to the national constitution.

Gonzalez made the announcement during a meeting in La Palma, Darien Province, which was attened by corregimiento representatives of the District of Chepigana and candidates for representative in the August elections.

The meeting of national and provincial authorities, representatives and candidates took place in a straw hut at the National Guard headquarters in La Palma. It was called by Chief of Government Omar Torrijos in order to open a direct dialog with the communities prior to the August elections. However, Gonzalez explained that, even though he had called the meeting, Torrijos could not attend because of engagements of an international nature connected with the exchange of ratification instruments of the Panama Canal treaties.

Regarding the amendments to the constitution, Gonzalez limited himself to explaining that the draft will be initially discussed by the National Legislative Council and will then be submitted to the Assembly of Corregimiento Representatives when it meets in special sessions in September following the elections.

The constitutional amendments will mainly involve granting the assembly legislative functions, wider decisionmaking powers and larger representation in the National Legislative Council. After they are approved in special session prior to the end of the present legislative term, the amendments must be ratified by the new corregimiento representatives during the new legislative term in order for them to take effect.

In addition to Gonzalez, Health Minister Abraham Saied, Labor Minister Adolfo Ahumada and Public Works Minister Wallace Ferguson went to Darien, as well as legislation commissioner Manuel Balbino Moreno and Maj Domingo O'Callaghan, director of the General Directorate for Community Development. Also present at the meeting were Darien Governor Otilia Othon and Maj Osvaldo Herazo, chief of the 9th military zone.

The meeting in La Palma lasted 2 hours. During the meeting, the community raised questions about the electoral process which were answered by national and regional authorities.

After the meeting, Gonzalez and the cabinet ministers left by plane for El Real de Santa Maria, Yaviza District, to talk with representatives and candidates to the assembly. The visitors were accompanied by students and residents of El Real in a walk from the landing strip to the Carlos Manuel Othon Public Library, where the talk was held.

Saied opened this meeting by making an appeal for exceptional unity in connection with the electoral process and for full participation in the 6 August election to choose the new members of the national assembly. He raised the need for conscious patriotic participation in the electoral fray because the new assembly will play an important role in the initial stage of decolonization of the Canal Zone, based on the Torrijos-Carter treaties.

The tour that began today in Chepigana and Yaviza districts in Darien Province will be extended to the remaining 62 districts of the country within the next 60 days in an obvious bid by the national government to see the electoral process conclude with the election of the most effective representatives of each community.

FOREIGN MINISTRY CONFIRMS TORRIJOS-CARAZO MEETING ON 21 MAY

PA131201Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0215 GMT 13 May 78 PA

[Text] Panama City, 12 May (AFP)--The Panamanian Foreign Ministry confirmed this afternoon that Chief of Government Gen Omar Torrijos will meet with Costa Rica's new president, Rodrigo Carazo, on 21 May.

The Foreign Ministry did not indicate the site of the meeting, but it said that Torrijos' visit to Costa Rica will be the occasion for renewing the agreement with the Tropical Agronomy Research and Training Center.

DOMINICAN YOUTHS DEMONSTRATE OUTSIDE EMBASSY IN PANAMA CITY

PA182007Y Panama City Circuito RPC in Spanish 1720 GMT 18 May 78 PA

[SERCANO Network]

[Text] While news from the Dominican Republic continues to be confusing and nobody knows when the counting of the votes, which apparently gave victory to the opposition, will resume a group of Dominican youths is occupying the garden of their country's embassy in this capital.

The youths, who say they are exiles, arrived last night under a heavy rain shower and settled themselves outside the building, alleging that the symbolic seizure of the embassy is intended to call the continent's attention to their country's situation.

Balaguer is a master of comedy; but this time the public will not applaud his act, said the Dominicans.

DPRK TRADE DELEGATION MEETS WITH COMMERCE OFFICIALS

PA160134Y Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 15 May 78 pp 1A, 10A PA

[Text] A DPRK trade delegation is in Panama to explore the possibilities of purchasing bananas, sugar and other agricultural products from our country.

Korea produces steel, cement, clothing and a large variety of export products.

Mr Pak Tok-chin, head of the Korean delegation and president of the Ponghwa state commercial enterprise, is accompanied by Mr Kim Myong-chae, a company official, and Kim Chong-ka, an interpreter.

The Koreans were received at the Ministry of Commerce and Industries. During their short stay in our country, they plan to visit the Colon Free Zone, the offices of the Union of Banana Exporting Counties and the port authority.

COSTA RICA

MARITIME BORDERS WITH PANAMA, NICARAGUA TO BE NEGOTIATED

PA190207Y San Jose Cadena de Emiosras Columbia in Spanish 2305 GMT 18 May 78 PA

[SERCANO Network]

[Text] Foreign Minister Rafael Angel Calderon Fournier has told this station that negotiations will be underway soon with Panama to establish the maritime border on both oceans in accordance with the new concept of a 200-mile patrimonial sea. According to Calderon Fournier, work is also underway to open similar negotiations with Nicaragua in order to define our maritime borders with that country. The limits with Colombia have already been agreed on, but the Legislative's Assembly's ratification of that agreement is still pending.

INTERIOR MINISTER SAYS VESCO NOT EXPECTED TO RETURN

PA181959Y San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 18 May 78 PA

[Text] I think Vesco will not return to Costa Rica, Interior Minister Juan Jose Echeverria said this morning. He said that today he would answer a letter from Juan Jose Quiros Reyes, the second court judge in charge of the case against controversial financier Robert Lee Vesco. Minister Juan Jose Echeverria added: I cannot grant what the judge is asking of me. I cannot place the civil guard at his disposal, since that is beyond my power. I cannot send guardsmen to the Bahamas to capture Robert Vesco, the interior minister advised second court judge Juan Jose Echeverria this morning.

The interior minister later added that he is convinced that Robert Vesco will never return to our country in view of the well-known problems that have arisen, especially the change of administration. I am almost certain of that, Juan Jose Echeverria Brealey said. He also denied signing an arrest warrant for Vesco in the event that he returns to the country. He reiterated this morning that all he has asked of the police is to be informed when Vesto arrives.

BRIEFS

1977 FOREIGN TRADE BALANCE--According to a Central Bank report issued today, Costa Rica's foreign trade in 1977 resulted in a favorable balance for our country of $108.6 million. Thus, the net monetary reserves of the national banking system total $232.5 million. In 1976 the reserves totaled $123.2 million. [San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 13 May 78 PA]

EL SALVADOR

TWO GUERRILLAS DIE IN CLASH WITH SECURITY FORCES

PA181221Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0356 GMT 18 May 78 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 17 May (AFP)--It has been reported that two guerrillas died today as a result of an armed clash with Salvadoran security forces 60 km from this capital. Oscar Gabriel Camino Rojas and Jose Natividad Arevalo Rodriguez, members of the Popular Liberation Front [FPL], had a shootout with guards who tried to break up a demonstration in Zacatecoluca to commemorate the death of several peasants from the region. The peasants died last year during a clash with the army. According to local police, an FPL flag, pamphlets and weapons were found at the site of the demonstration.

JAPANESE TEXTILE EXECUTIVE KIDNAPED 17 MAY

PA181222Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0352 GMT 18 May 78 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 17 May (ACAN-EFE)--Fugio Matsumoto, a Japanese executive of the textile factory Insinca, was kidnaped this evening, Wednesday, in San Salvador by heavily armed unidentified individuals. None of the extremist groups operating in El Salvador has taken credit for the kidnaping so far. The kidnaping took place in the administrative offices of the factory, which is financed by Salvadoran and Japanese capital.

The factory is located on Los Heroes Boulevard in a northwestern sector of this capital. The kidnaping took place when the executive was getting ready to go home. There was a shootout in the factory between the kidnapers and factory guards. As a result, Jorge Adalberto Campos, an Insinca security employee, was seriously wounded.

FARN Takes Credit

PA190204Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2245 GMT 18 May 78 PA

[Excerpts] San Salvador, 18 May (ACAN-EFE)--The Armed Forces of National Resistance (FARN) today took credit for yesterday's kidnaping of Japanese industrialist Fujio Matsumoto in San Salvador. In its message the subversive group stated that "the FARN notifies the people that, on orders of the political directorate of the national resistance, two guerrilla squads captured an element of the bourgeoisie, Mr Fujio Matsumoto."

FARN added that Matsumoto "is a representative of Japanese imperialism which, with the Germans and the North Americans, divide among themselves like vultures the profits of their exploitation and control of the world's underdeveloped peoples."

It said that the Insica executive had been captured so that "his family and the Japanese Government will fulfill a series of conditions that our political organization believes are important and of much interest to the Salvadoran people and the popular movement." FARN indicated that the Japanese executive will be released if the demands it will opportunely make known are met. If they are not met, he will be executed.

GUATEMALA

STRIKING ELECTRICAL WORKERS CAUSE POWER FAILURE

PA190307Y Guatemala City Radio Fabulosa Network in Spanish 2305 GMT 18 May 78 PA

[SERCANO Network]

[Text] The 2-hour power failure decreed by workers of Guatemala's electrical company caused huge material losses estimated at several million quetzales, mostly affecting the industrial sector. The workers are protesting the presence of an engineer in La Laguna plant in Amatitlan.

The most dramatic situations occurred in the public and private hospitals. In the General Hospital, 12 of 17 scheduled operations had to be suspended and 5 patients were left halfway, that is, they only got as far as being anesthesized. Maternity hospitals were also in a state of emergency, and efforts had to be made to tend premature children who had been placed in incubators. So far no deaths have been reported as a result of the 2-hour power shortage, which began today at 0800 and concluded at 1000.

This afternoon the national government appointed Labor Minister Daniel Corzo de la Roca mediator in the electrical company workers' conflict. The aim is to prevent another power shortage, as today's strike resulted in heavy losses and numerous inconveniences.

Since the workers are threatening a 4-hour strike tomorrow, it was semiofficially announced today that the electrical company may be militarized and that the responsibility of those staging illegal, unpatriotic and criminal strikes may be established in accordance with the military code.

HONDURAS

SANDINIST GUERRILLA CAPTURED LAST WEEK

PA190240Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0102 GMT 19 May 78 PA

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 18 May (ACAN-EFE)--Olvin Rodriguez, president of the Honduran University Students Federation (FEUH), today reported that a Sandinist guerrilla was captured by Honduran troops last week in territory bordering Nicaragua. The FEUH president identified the captured guerrilla as Rigoberto Rivas Lemus, who is being held at a military installation in Tegucigalpa.

Despite his confinement, Rivas Lemus sent a note to FEUH to make known his capture and where he is being held. He reported that Honduran officials have treated him well. He also asked that the Honduran people struggle to prevent his extradition to Nicaragua.

Rivas Lumus joins German Pomares, another Sandinist captured by Honduras. Various Honduran progressive organizations have staged several demonstrations to prevent Pomares' extradition to Nicaragua.

NICARAGUA

MILITARY DISPERSES STUDENT DEMONSTRATION, EVACUATES SCHOOLS

PA190233Y Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 2305 GMT 18 May 78 PA

[SERCANO Network]

[Text] Shortly after 0900 today, military patrols dispersed a student demonstration in Las Brisas residential area. Students of the National Trade Institute, located in that area, took to the streets seeking the support of fellow students from the Ramirez Goyena Central National Institute located only a few blocks away. When the groups from the two schools met, the military patrols went into action, tossing two tear gas bombs, which caused the youths to disperse. Nonetheless, it has been reported that four youths, all students at the National Trade Institute, were injured. Several army jeeps are currently patrolling the area around the two schools.

Meanwhile, around noon today Police Col Alesio Gutierrez of the Managua police headquarters personally evacuated students from the Managua Central Teachers School using the butt of his weapon. Several students came to our offices to present their complaints and report that three other students had been arrested. According to the students making the charges, the school's prinicpal, Prof Justo Perez Mora, opened the school doors to the police so they could come in and evacuate the students.

OFFER TO INTERVENE IN DOMINICAN REPUBLIC DENIED

PA190241Y Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 19 May 78 PA

[Text] Havana, 18 May--A Cuban Government spokesman today categorically denied an AFP report from Port-au-Prince regarding an alleged offer of Cuban participation in the current situation in the Dominican Republic. The official source stressed that the report is groundless.

The AFP report had attributed the information to radio Havana, which is also not true, the spokesman added.

CEMA COMMITTEE MEETING ENDS; AGREEMENTS SIGNED

FL181029Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 18 May 78 FL

[Text] The eighth meeting of the CEMA committee for technical and material supply will end today after several days of discussions at a plenary session held in Santa Maria del Mar, Havana City. During today's discussions, agreements on bilateral cooperation and exchange of experiences will be signed between Cuba and CEMA member countries. The final protocol also will be signed on the last day of the meeting, after which representatives of our country will sign the announced agreements. The delegates also will visit the central base of the State Committee for Technical and Material Supply. This complex of construction work will be the base of the country's most important warehouses when completed. It will have a capacity of almost 600,000 cubic meters.

In yesterday's session our delegation read a report on the organization and development of our State Committee for Technical ani Material Supply. The report was read by Irma Sanchez, president of this state committee, and it covers the work done by the committee during its 2 years of existence, difficulties that still exist, and its most immediate plans, which include Cuba's closest cooperation with the other CEMA member countries.

Agreements Reported

FL182015Y Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 18 May 78 FL

[Text] The eighth meeting of the CEMA committee on cooperation in the area of material and technical supply, held at Hotel Atlantico in Santa Maria del Mar, has ended following 3 days of sessions. Nine member countries participated in the event headed by Nikolay Martynov, chairman of the CEMA committee and deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers. PCC Central Committee Secretariat member Raul Garcia Pelaez participated in the closing session.

In his closing remarks Nikolay Martynov thanked the Cuban state committee in charge of organizing the event, which ended with a document signed by the USSR, Romania, Mongolia, Poland, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, the GDR and Cuba.

The CEMA meeting concluded with the signing of two bilateral conventions. the USSR, through Nikolay Martynov, signed a protocol on scientific and technical cooperation with Cuba--which was represented by Irma Sanchez Valdes, chairman of the State Committee on Technical and Material Supply. The other convention between Cuba and the GDR deals with the exchange of surpluses.

COMMENTATOR: MORO SLAYING RESULT OF 'ERRONEOUS STRATEGIC IDEA'

FL182004Y Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 18 May 78 FL

[Carlos Mora Herman commentary]

[Text] The 11 bullets that ended Aldo Moro's life on 9 May were the strongest confirmation of the profound crisis facing the so-called bourgeois order that is trying to maintain itself to defend the capitalists' interests. Fifty-four days after he was kidnapped, Moro was executed and his corpse abandoned on Caetani Street in Rome, a few meters from the national headquarters of the Italian Communist Party and the Christian Democrats. His death did not solve the crisis in that country, nor did it change the fact that the Italian bourgeoisie has shown, without a doubt, its political, economic and social failure.

The so-called Red Brigades, which have claimed responsibility for this dramatic act, have been able to operate and grow precisely because of the breakdown in the bourgeois order, which is worn down by incapacity, corruption and crisis that has been increasing over the last few years. It is being said that Moro's death is part of the objective to destabilize the Italian democratic regime and that united behind this objective are the most reactionary sectors of the country--the neofascists and the most outer fringes of imperialism--which are not willing to tolerate the presence of the communists in the Italian Government.

But it is worthwhile to examine if stability really does exist in the Italian bourgeois government apparatus and if there exists a correct revolutionary way to confront that government apparatus which in no way could be the chaotic terrorism of the Red Brigades. The just popular reaction condemning the anarchistic methods of the Red Brigades has in the final analysis been taken advantage of by the fringe defenders of the bourgeois order and the bourgeois state, with all that signifies as an instrument of exploitation of man by man and the perpetuation of social injustice.

Nevertheless, the condemnation of this unjustifiable deed cannot become the defense of a social regime that stands for all the defects and injustices of capitalism. The terrorism by the so-called Red Brigades is inoperable, anti-Marxist and politically erroneous. Nevertheless, the terrorism that sabotaged the Cubana de Aviacion airplane in Barbados, killing 73 people; the type which was shown recently in Cassinga, Angola, when the South African racists massacred 600 Namibian civilians; the terrorism against Palestinian refugees, and many other similar acts have not caused indignation among the bourgeoisie and its broadcasting media, as has been the case with the death of Aldo Moro. We have said that Aldo Moro's death does not constitute any type of solution of Italy's grave economic, social and political problems. The Red Brigades executed Moro as part of an erroneous strategic idea which does not conform to a policy that goes to the root of structural problems, one armed with a truly revolutionary Marxist-Leninist ideology. The Italian bourgeoisie in power also sacrificed Moro so as not to affect the established order that was put in danger by the kidnapping and its political consequences.

A revolutionary analysis of these deeds can help us understand that Aldo Moro was a victim of his own class of that same bourgeoisie which he consistently defended from realistic and politically intelligent positions but which were directed at not breaking the bourgeois order, but rather at saving it from a resounding downfall.

RODRIGUEZ CHAIRS PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION UNION MEETING

FL181036Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 18 May 78 FL

[Text] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, member of the PCC Politburo and vice president of the Council of State and Council of Ministers, has made the closing remarks in this capital at the national plenary meeting on emulation work by the Public Administration Trade Union during the first quarter of this year. The candidates for selection as promoters of socialist emulation nominated by the Public Administration Workers Trade Union National Committee were presented awards at the meeting.

Emulation agreements between the state committees for Finance, Price and Statistics and the provincial offices of the National Bank of Cuba and other agencies also were signed at the meeting.

The emulation work report released at the plenary meeting stresses the principal achievements reached in the work done by the Public Administration Trade Union during the period.

In closing the national emulation meeting, Carlos Rafael Rodriguez pointed out that we must forge the new man in communism gradually as part of the material building of society. He stressed that emulation among public administration workers and production sectors is already provinding fine economic results.

HEALTH MINISTER RETURNS FROM GENEVA CONFERENCE

FL181445Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1427 GMT 18 May 78 FL

[Text] Public Health Minister Dr Jose A. Gutierrez Muniz has returned to our country after participating in the meeting of public health ministers and representatives of the nonalined movement and other developing countries held in Geneva, capital of Switzerland.

On arrival at Jose Marti International Airport, Dr Gutierrez Muniz said that the meeting--in which 122 countries participated--was quite successful. The conference of public health ministers and representatives of nonalined and other developing countries approved an action program of 14 objectives designed to eliminate the economic, social and political inequalities in health matters. The document, approved by a majority, was described as historic by many of the delegations that participated in the meeting, held 10 to 12 May as part of the 31st annual conference of the World Health Organization.

BALAGUER DENIES COUP, WILL RESPECT ELECTION OUTCOME

FL191042Y Santo Domingo Radio Mil Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 19 May 78 FL

[Text] President Balaguer at midnight last night promised to respect the popular (?will) in the general elections held last Tuesday. The 70-year-old chief executive asked the people to have faith in him and in the armed forces, pointing out that the final result will be respected regardless of the winner. Dr Balaguer likewise asked sectors of the ruling Reformist Party [words indistinct] like men and added that they must calmly accept the final count of the Electoral Board. He asked: What does the future of a party or of a man matter in comparison to the fate of 5 million citizens?

Dr Joaquin Balaguer appeared on radio and television at midnight and personally guaranteed that the final result of the election would be respected. At the same time, he said there would be no coup d'etat as long as he is president of the republic.

The principal opposition party, the Dominican Revolutionary Party [PRD] had claimed victory and accused the government of organizing an electoral fraud. Regarding this charge, Balauger stated: I urge all my compatriots to cease the wave of recent unfounded rumors from one end of the country to the other. Those unreasonable calls for strikes, for political strikes, on the assumption that the Central Electoral Board decision would not be respected, should cease.

The Dominican president emphasized: Who can doubt that this speaker will not abide by the ruling of an electoral organization or that we would hold a [word indistinct] presidency in this country for even a single hour? He stressed that he would be president only so long as he has the backing of the constitution of the republic and so long as he feels that he has the backing of the people. He explained that he has never exercised this right and would never exercise it without the express will of the people.

The Central Electoral Board resumed the vote count yesterday after the military interrupted it in the early hours on Wednesday. [Words indistinct] U.S. State Department had sent a telegram to President Balaguer indicating that the interruption of the democratic process would have serious consequences on relations between the two countries. [Words indistinct] the United States could intervene in national domestic affairs, Dr Balaguer said: The electoral process served as a pretext to powerful and friendly nations to interfere in the domestic affairs of the Dominican Republic. I reject such interference with all my energy.

When soldiers entered the central offices of the chief electoral organization at dawn on Wednesday and took the rest of the ballots, landowner Antonio Guzman, PRD presidential candidate, had a lead over Dr Balaguer of 353,542 to 262,471 votes.

OUTCOME OF 16 MAY ELECTION STILL UNCERTAIN, CONTESTED

PR Announces Victory

PA182342Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 2323 GMT 18 May 78 PA

[Text] Santo Domingo, 18 May (EFE)--The press secretary of the ruling Reformist Party [PR] said today that his party has reports indicating that it won Tuesday's general elections by a margin of 160,000 votes over the opposition Dominican Revolutionary Party [PRD]. At a news conference, Hector Perez Reyes denied that PR had perpetrated any fraud since, in his words, it is aware that it obtained an overwhelming majority.

The PR leader also denied that there was any attempted coup and said that it was the Central Electoral Board which, in a letter, asked for the intervention of the armed forces at its offices. When told that the board had said that the soldiers arrived without its authorization, Perez Reyes showed the letter and said that what he was saying was the truth.

Hundreds of PR sympathizers celebrated the victory announced by the government party's press secretary outside the presidency of the republic shortly after Perez Reyes made the statement.

Comment on Vote Count

PA191302Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1204 GMT 19 May 78 PA

[Text] Santo Domingo, 18 May (AFP)--Central Electoral Board inspectors of Santo Domingo have been dispatched throughout the country to [words indistinct] municipal electoral boards the records taken from each voting booth containing results of the computations of the presidential (?elections).

(?The records) are signed by the pollwatchers, including the political delegates of the parties.

Joaquin Manuel Castillo, president of the Central Electoral Board, reiterated this afternoon that it is not possible to predict the exact date on which the final results of the vote count will be released. He noted that by law the board has 1 month from the date of the elections to present its report.

Further Note on Count

PA191325Y Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 19 May 78 PA

[Excerpt] The results of the elections in the Dominican Republic will be announced in 10 to 15 days. This was reported in Central Electoral Court circles.

Strike Threatened

PA182211Y Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 2152 GMT 18 May 78 PA

[Text] The vice presidential candidate of the Dominican Revolutionary Party, Jacobo Majluta, declared that it is obvious that Guzman has obtained an overwhelming majority. We have the support of the economic, political and religious forces of the nation and will respond with a general strike if there is a coup or an electoral fraud, Jacobo Majluta said.

Gangs Attack Electoral Boards

PA190008Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2342 GMT 18 May 78 PA

[Text] Caracas, 18 May (AFP)--Salvador Jorge Blanco, president of the Dominican Revolutionary Party [PRD], stated during a telephone conversation that armed gangs from the Reformist Party [PR] today attacked the electoral boards of Santo Domingo and several cities in the interior. He said that "the manifest purpose is to alter the results of the elections, which were undeniably won by the PRD." The statement was made to PRD leader Simon Campos, who lives in Caracas.

According to Blanco, the so-called PR "red gangs" occupied the offices of the Central Electoral Board in Santo Domingo, Nagua, Esperanza, Santiago, Miguey, San Jose de Ocoa, Bani, Cotuy and San Cristobal. He said that the gangs are "PR shock forces under the direction of Oswaldo Leger and Font Bernal, high-ranking Balaguer government officials." The incidents provoked by these gangs, said Blanco, have reportedly again paralyzed the counting of votes from Tuesday's elections, which was interrupted by military and police forces on Wednesday.

POLITICAL LEADER SAYS MILITARY RAIDED PARTY HEADQUARTERS

PA182321Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2313 GMT 18 May 78 PA

[Text] Bogota, 18 May (AFP)--The situation in Santo Domingo "is very delicate" and the army today raided the headquarters of the Dominican Democratic Movement, a Dominican political leader told AFP here. The aforementioned leader, who asked not to be identified, did not give any further details.

POLITICAL, PROFESSIONAL GROUPS COMMENT ON ELECTIONS

PA190334Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0248 GMT 19 May 78 PA

[Excerpt] Santo Domingo, 18 May (AFP)--Political and professional organizations today called for respect of the results of the general elections which have not yet been officially released by the Central Electoral Board. Meanwhile, the leaders of the Reformist Party and the Dominican Revolutionary Party [PRD]--the main contenders--publicly proclaimed victory.

The reaction of those organizations came as a result of the intervention of the military forces in the Central Electoral Board and other electoral bodies of the country, thus paralyzing the vote count and causing a national crisis.

In separate documents, the Dominican Medical Association and the Dominican Lawyers Association demanded respect for the constitution and the people's will as it was legally and peacefully expressed in the polls on Tuesday so that the people's faith in democracy will not be destroyed.

The Dominican Communist Party [PCD] stated that this electoral expression cannot be disregarded because, if it is, one runs the risk of leading the country into a deep and dreadful political crisis. It added that "solutions can still be applied to the crisis so that it will not degenerate into serious violence."

The PCD believes that "the interruption of the vote count and the possibility of changing the results of the elections through open control of the process by military forces would be an unacceptable solution to the crisis created by opposition to the evident victory" of the PRD.

The Patriotic Movement of National Unity demanded "the unrestricted observance of established legal norms that safeguard an adequate method of a final vote count and absolute respect for the people's sovereign will."

Pedro Henriquez Urena National University joined other educational institutions in expressing that civilized coexistence in representative democracy has to be based on the popular will as manifested in elections, which is its only legitimate form of expression.

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5-32